

Approved August 8, 2017

**Town Meeting Coordinating Committee
Minutes for June 2, 2017, 4:00 – 6:00 pm
Bangs Center, Garrabrants Room**

Present: Peggy Roberts, Alan Powell, Barbara Ford, Jacqueline Maidana, Chris Riddle, Patricia Holland, Mary Streeter

Peggy Roberts called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

1. **Public Comment:** None.
2. **Discuss Events, Evaluations, and Town Meeting:** We discussed the recent televised Select Board meeting that was highly critical of this committee. The Board had many criticisms but the main one concerned the comments made on our bus trip about the warrant article concerning the Jones Library. Pat said we should have held to our position of allowing no debate on articles discussed during the bus trip and apologized for letting such debate take place. Jacquie noted that she had cut the remarks short. She also recommended we respond in writing to the Select Board.
We then discussed the email from TM moderator Jim Pistrang citing the same discussion by someone on the bus, and Jacquie said we should write him objecting to an anonymous criticism.
Alan and Jacquie felt too much time was taken up by Maurianne Adams' explanation of the proposed historical zoning of her neighborhood.
We all recognized the problems on the bus trip: a microphone that was hard to work, the accidental absence of the map for the trip, the length of time taken by David Ziomek on two articles, and the consequence that we had to cut the bus ride short. Lesson learned about the bus trip: we need better planning ahead.
Mary summarized other comments on Town Meeting made by the Select Board: the lighting at TM was harsh; the League of Women Voters handbook needs updating; Jim Wald said people see TMCC as a partisan organization; Alisa Brewer complained we have never had a way to contact TM members; Town Manager Paul Bockleman defended TMCC. Chris drafted a letter of protest from TMCC to the Select Board.
We talked about the proposed School Committee/TMCC public meeting, and then reviewed the pros and cons of this event. Chris gave the history of the last two weeks with Mike Morris: he explained our need for a co-host relationship; he hoped that Mr. Morris could be the schools' co-host; Morris was not willing to do that without a SC vote. So all has to go on hold until the next SC meeting on June 14th. Alan said he is now opposed to TMCC sponsoring it. Peggy will tweak Chris's letter to the Select Board for review at the next meeting.
3. **Electronic Contacting: Google Group, Public, Listserv:** No time to discuss.
4. **Scheduling of Meetings:** The next meeting will be Friday, June 9, at 4 PM.
5. **Topics Not Anticipated 48 Hours Before Meeting:** None.
6. **Minutes:** We approved the minutes of May 18th and 24th as amended.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Minutes submitted by Patricia Holland, Clerk

Documents Distributed:

Agenda

Minutes of May 18 and 24, 2017

Summaries of Comments on Warrant Discussions, Bus Tour, Orientation